

FEMA: Week in Review



Louisiana Recovery Office
New Orleans, LA

FEMA

January 20, 2012

Announcements

Jefferson Parish Celebrates Opening of New Library

On Saturday, Jan. 7, 2012, Jefferson Parish celebrated the opening of the Lakeshore Library with a ribbon cutting. In the afternoon the parish hosted festivities which included cooking demonstrations, folk dancing, Wetlands Express demonstrations and Living History Corps reenactments.

The library was severely damaged by wind, rain and flooding caused by Hurricane Katrina. The library's contents were destroyed. Since the hurricane, the library has operated out of a trailer near the damaged building.

In its new incarnation, the Dewey Decimal System has been traded for a massive expansion of technological amenities and a design aimed at encouraging residents to linger in comfortable chairs and common areas. In an interview with The Times-Picayune, Library Director Lon Dickerson said, "It really is meant to be a



place where people will go as a destination and spend some serious time."

The temporary quarters now have been shut down and patrons of the new facility can browse among books, media, computers, wireless internet connections and a "smart table" used for interactive educational games.

Children explore interactive technology at Jefferson Parish library grand opening. Photo by Andrea Davis

Community Fetes New School in Lakeview

On Tuesday, Jan. 17, 2012, the Orleans Parish School Board, the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Lakeview community and Hynes Charter School administrators and students celebrated the opening of their new school. The Hynes Elementary School was devastated by five feet of water in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and remained closed for the remainder of the 2005-2006 school year.

The Hynes spirit and determination lived on and in March 2006, the school was granted a Type 3 Charter by the Orleans Parish School Board and forged a permanent working relationship with the University of New Orleans. The school relocated to the St. James Major Archdiocese facility in Gentilly while waiting for its new campus and permanent home in Lakeview.

The new facility, which houses the Hynes Charter School, includes space for a cafeteria, auditorium, science laboratories, a library/media center and a computer curriculum.

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Join the Discussion:

PRESIDENTIAL POLICY DIRECTIVE 8 (PPD 8)

FEMA and our federal partners continue to engage the whole community in making the nation more prepared and resilient. Join the discussion of the National Preparedness Goal at fema.ideascale.com. Help develop a strong emergency management system by joining the online forum, Think Tank at <http://www.fema.gov/thinktank>.

Read about Community Engagement at <http://www.fema.gov/about/wholecommunity.shtm>.

Calendar

Jan. 21: Open House at New Orleans/Baton Rouge Weather Forecast Office, Slidell, LA, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information: <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/lix/>.

Jan. 24: CERT webinar at 1 p.m. Central Time

Feb. 7-9: National Evacuation Conference, New Orleans, LA

Feb. 9: Industry Day, Shreveport, LA

For more information about Industry Day contact:
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Housing Update

Katrina/Rita: 7
Gustav/Ike: 2

